(b) and (c). Government promotes setting up of small scale industries in both rural and urban areas. An Integrated Infrastructural Development Scheme is being implemented to improve infrastructural facilities in the rural and backward areas to facilitate setting up of small scale industries in these areas. Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) also implements several schemes for promotion and development of Khadi and Village Industries in the country.

(d) The Ninth Five Year Plan is not yet finalised.

(e) In view of (d) above, does not arise.

[Translation]

District Judges in U.P.

1246. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of those districts in Uttar Pradesh where District Judges have not been appointed so far;

(b) whether the Government propose to appoint District Judges immediately at those places where vacancies exist;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of Dry-Port at Agra

1247 SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in setting up of a Dry-port at Agra;

(b) by when this Dry-port is likely to start functioning;

(c) the areas where this service has been provided through container depots and the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to increase the services of container depot in Agra; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). The dry port (Inland Container Depot) at Agra has been commissioned on 19/11/1996.

(c) An Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) is functioning in the Ministry of Commerce to provide single window clearance to the proposals for setting up dry ports (Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations (ICDs/CFSs). A list of proposals approved by the IMC is given in the Statement enclosed. Some of the projects given in the Annexure are functional while others are at various stages of implementation.

(d) and (e). The Government considers the proposals for setting up ICDs/CFSs as and when received. No additional proposal for Agra is pending with the Government.

STATEMENT

List of Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations (ICDs/CFSs) Approved by the Inter Ministerial Committee

1. Amritsar (Punjab)
2. Calcutta (West Bengal)... (Two CFSs)
3. Nhava Sheva (Maharashtra)
4. Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu) ... (Three CFSs)
5. Dronagiri Node (New Bombay) ... (Two CFSs) (Maharashtra)
6. Madras (Tamil Nadu) ... (Seven CFSs)
7. Kalamboli (Maharashtra)
8. Cochin (Kerala)... (Five CFSs)
9. Indore (Madhya Pradesh)
10. Kandla (Gujarat)
11. Surat (Gujarat)
12. Faridabad (Haryana)... (Two CFSs)
13. Jodhpur (Rajasthan)
14. Dasrath, Baroda (Gujarat)
15. Nasik (Gujarat)
16. Udaipur (Rajasthan)
17. Bhatinda (Punjab)
18. Tirupur (Tamil Nadu)
19. Kota (Rajasthan)
20. Porbunder (Gujarat)
21. Ballasore (Orissa)
22. Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)
23. Malanpur (Madhya Pradesh)
24. Rewari (Haryana)
25. Aurangabad (Maharashtra)
26. Nagpur (Maharashtra) (Two CFSs)
27. Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
28. Raipur (Madhya Pradesh)
29. Agra (Uttar Pradesh)
30. New Mangalore (Karnataka)
31. Panambur (Karnataka)
32. Salem (Tamil Nadu)

33. Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)
34. Raxaul (Bihar)
35. Siliguri (West Bengal)
36. Haldia (West Bengal)
37. Jalgaon (Maharashtra)
38. Meerut (Uttar Pradesh)
39. Unnao (Uttar Pradesh)
40. Saharanpur (Uttar Pradesh)
41. Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)
42. Bhilwara (Rajasthan)
43. Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh)
44. Barwala (near Chandigarh)
45. Paradip Port (Orissa)
46. Waluj (Maharashtra)

Excise duty Evasion by Tyre Industry

1248. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount unearthed by the Directorate General of Anti Evasion in the first round of probe of central excise evasion by the organised sector of the tyre industry;

(b) the outcome of the investigations in the second round and the modus operandi followed in the central excise evasion; and

(c) the amount proposed to be realised from the small-scale and some major tyre manufacturers and the steps initiated in this behalf so far?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) A prima-facie evasion of Central Excise duty to the tune of Rs. 89.19 crores against the tyre manufacturers in the organised sector has been unearthed by the Directorate General of Anti Evasion in 1996.

(b) In the second round of anti-evasion operations, certain tyre manufacturers in medium sector have been covered. The investigations conducted so far in these cases have revealed alleged evasion of central excise duty in the order of Rs. 6 crores approximately. Investigation in these cases have been initiated on the basis of intelligence that certain tyre manufacturers have removed light commercial vehicle tyres in the guise of tractor trailor tyres. Light commercial vehicle tyres are leviable to higher rate of duty.

(c) The amount can be recovered after adjudication in accordance with the provisions of Central Excise Act and Rules made thereunder. However, Rs. 5.85 crores have already been paid voluntarily by the tyre manufacturers in organised sector in this regard. So far, no action has been initiated against tyre manufacturers in small-scale sector.

Supply of Coal to Power Projects

1249. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total annual requirement of coal of different power plants;

(b) the order placed by each coal based power plant for the year 1996-97, monthwise;

(c) the quantum of coal supplied to each power plant during the year 1996-97 so far, monthwise; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure supply of coal to each power plant according to the requirement irrespective of the fact that it is in the public sector or private sector; and

(e) the steps taken to boost the production of coal particularly in Singareni collieries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) For the year 1996-97, the Planning Commission has assessed the demand for coal for the power sector at 215 million tonnes. However, the power station-wise generation target shows requirements of only 199.64 million tonnes.

(b) and (c). The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) makes recommendations for allotment of coal for each coal based power plant on the basis of generation targets fixed for them. The recommendations made by the CEA are considered by the Standing Linkage Committee (Short-term) which allots coal for each thermal power station on quarterly basis within the overall constraints of availability of coal, transportation, unloading facilities of the power stations and timely payment for coal supplies. The details regarding month-wise quantum of coal supplied to each power plant during the period April-October, 1996 by the public sector coal companies are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) Coal supplies to power sector is accorded the highest priority. Supply of coal to power sector is monitored regularly by an Inter-Ministerial Group irrespective of the fact that whether it is in public or private sector. Appropriate corrective action is taken to step up coal supplies wherever necessary.

(e) Despatches to power sector have been consistently increasing over the years. Both Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) have been able to meet the growing demand of power sector in full. Various steps have been taken to increase production of coal in SCCL. These inter alia include opening of new mines, modernisation of existing mines and improving the industrial relations in the company.